



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

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NEWS RELEASE

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Attorney Milan D. Smith Nominated to Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

SAN FRANCISCO – President Bush has nominated Southern California attorney Milan D. Smith to serve as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

The White House announced the nomination of Mr. Smith on Tuesday (Feb. 14). If confirmed by the Senate, he would fill a judgeship vacant since June 30, 2004, when Judge A. Wallace Tashima took senior status.

Mr. Smith is managing partner of Smith Crane Robinson & Parker LLP in Torrance, a firm he helped found in 1972. He specializes in transactions with emphasis on corporate, real estate and secured financing law. He began his legal career with O'Melveny & Myers in Los Angeles, where he was an associate from 1969 to 1972.

Mr. Smith was appointed to the governing board of the Los Angeles State Building Authority in 1984 by Gov. Deukmejian. He served as president until January 1992 and currently serves as general counsel. Gov. Deukmejian also appointed him to the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission, where he served from 1987 to 1991.

Mr. Smith received his J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School in 1969 and his undergraduate degree from Brigham Young University, graduating *cum laude*. He served on the Board of Directors of the Brigham Young University Alumni Association from 1982 to 1986, including two years on the Executive Committee.

Mr. Smith is a member of the Deseret Trust Company of California, the Fraternity of Friends of the Music Center, and the Board of Visitors, School of Religion at Claremont Graduate School. He is the brother of U.S. Senator Gordon Smith of Oregon.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals is authorized 28 active judgeships and currently has four vacancies. With the addition of Mr. Smith, nominations are now pending for all four vacancies. Since taking office in 2001, President Bush has filled four judgeships on the court.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals hears appeals of cases decided by federal trial courts or state courts in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington, plus the U.S. Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. For fiscal year 2005, the court reported 16,037 appeals filed.

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